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REMARKS

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Claims 6-12, 14-16, 18-20, and 26-27 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1-5, 13, 17, and 21-25 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 6 and 8-10 are amended herein. No new matter is being added. Applicants gratefully acknowledge allowance of claims 11-12, 14-16, 18-20, and 27. Claims 6-10 and 26 are rejected on prior art grounds. Applicants traverse the rejections as follows.

Claims 6-10 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S. C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Bertin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,982,903), hereinafter referred to as "Bertin". However, Applicants have amended claims 6 and 8-10 to place the claims in condition for allowance. In particular, independent claim 6 now recites, "An integrated circuit comprising: a primary transistor device to be monitored; and an embedded carbon nanotube field effect transistor (CNT FET) spaced apart from said primary transistor device to be monitored, wherein said CNT FET is adapted to detect defective circuits and measure physical characteristics within said integrated circuit, wherein said CNT FET is adapted to measure any of mechanical and thermal stress and strain in said integrated circuit, and wherein said primary transistor device to be monitored comprises: a gate; a source region; a drain region; and a gate insulator layer separating said gate from each of said source region and said drain region." These features are neither taught nor suggested in Bertin, and as such claims 6-10 and 26 are patentable over Bertin. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to claims 6-10 and 26 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 6-12, 14-16, 18-20, and 26-27, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.


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Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary. Please charge any deficiencies and credit any overpayments to Attorney's Deposit Account Number 09-0456.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 30, 2006


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